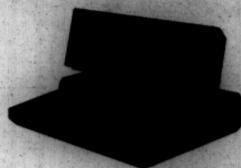


EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



William H.
Perkins Jr.
Editor

EDITOR
William H. Perkins Jr.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Tony Martin

EDITORIAL ASSOCIATE
Florence Larrimore

LAYOUT/DESIGN
Joylin Davis

ADVERTISING/PROOFREADER
Heather Cumberland

CIRCULATION MANAGER
Brenda Quattlebaum

BOOKKEEPER
Betty Anne Bailey

EDITORS EMERITI
Don McGregor
Guy Henderson

Baptist Record Advisory Committee:
Grant Arinder, Ridgeland
Charles Dunagin, McComb
Ken Hester, Pontotoc
Allan Nix, Laurel
David Petty, Hattiesburg
Michael Weeks, Olive Branch
Heather Cumberland, secretary

Postmaster: Send changes of address to The BAPTIST RECORD, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Send news, communication, and address changes to The Editor, BAPTIST RECORD, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530 (601) 968-3800 Fax: (601) 292-3330 E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org

VOLUME 125 NUMBER 20
(ISSN-0005-5778)

Published weekly except weeks of July 4 and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, 515 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$8.35 per year payable in advance. Economy plans available for cooperating Mississippi churches. Periodicals postage paid at Jackson, MS. Member, Association of State Baptist Papers. Deadlines: News items — one calendar week prior to requested publication date. Advertising — two calendar weeks prior to requested publication date.

The 144th annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) is now in the realm of history. Gathering June 12-13 in the Louisiana Superdome in downtown New Orleans, messengers from Southern Baptist churches across the country and around the world loudly praised the Lord and solidly voted to keep the SBC on its present, unabashedly conservative course.

There was an interesting mix of old and new. While embracing Christ's 2000-year-old Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20) during the pre-convention Crossover New Orleans evangelistic campaign that resulted in more than 1,000 professions of faith, Crossover planners also availed themselves of modern mass communication techniques with a 10-day television advertising blitz prior to the campaign.

While about 9600 messengers felt the meeting was important enough to travel long distances to attend, World Wide Web aficionados were able to use the latest Internet technology to view the entire annual meeting in real time on their personal computers.

There was a reassuring report on the state of race relations in the SBC. Sid Smith, executive director of the Black Southern Baptist Denominational Servants Network, described the marked increase in African American denominational workers over the last year as a significant accomplishment.

"It's a new day in the Southern Baptist Convention," he said.

Southern Baptist women invaded Satan's strongholds against their gender, boldly walking into the notorious strip joints of Bourbon Street and witnessing to the "exotic dancers" who degrade themselves for the pleasure of their male customers.

While a group of Baptist women entered the clubs, another group of Baptist women remained outside to pray for them and the lost women inside.

The newly-formed Southern Baptist Council on Family Life issued a preliminary report on its work, with chairman Tom Elliff, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla., observing that the group is still in the discovery stage and plans to add more members in the near future in an effort to become more ethnic and gender-diverse.

"There is no more winsome argument for the Gospel than a healthy, Christ-centered family," Elliff noted.

Except for a minor, informal confrontation in the press area between Charles Wade, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and Richard Land, president of the Ethics and Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, there were no political fireworks to report.

Messengers handily beat back attempts to alter last year's revision of the Baptist Faith and Message. Most of the resolutions and motions approved by messengers dealt with non-controversial topics.

As opposed to previous annual meetings, there weren't any "hot button" issues for secular reporters to spotlight, such as the Disney boycott or the statements on women's role in the family and church.

"I'M GRATEFUL FOR THE CURRENT SBC CONFLICT—PREVIOUSLY, WE HAD TO BLAME OUR FAILURES ON COMPLACENCY AND SIN!"



What will happen after the adjournment of this 2001 annual meeting?

It is the hopeful prayer of millions of Southern Baptists around the world that God will continue to use us in a mighty way to help bring a lost world to salvation in Jesus Christ.

He has given us the means. He has given us the motivation. He has given us the Holy Spirit. He has given us his Son.

What more do we need to accomplish the task at hand?

lowing ideas can get you started:

- Be sure your pastor and church staff are enrolled in the AB Church Annuity Plan. Only 56% of our churches participate.

- As an individual, send a monthly check to AB for the Adopt An Annuitant program, which sends \$75 each month to qualified recipients. Individuals can also send a one-time donation. Fifteen thousand dollars endows an elderly minister or widow for life.

- Your Sunday School class can adopt the practice of collecting money each Sunday. This need can be added to your church's budget. Monthly checks or a one-time amount can be sent.

- A special offering can be collected on Adopt An Annuitant Sunday, to be observed this year on June 24. An offering collected at Vacation Bible School can be donated.

- Senior adults in your church or association can collect funds.

- Individuals can collect newspapers or aluminum cans for recycling and donate the proceeds to the program.

- Retired ministers and widows in your church and your local Baptist community can be identified, and their names forwarded to the CMRA department.

Let's say "yes" to eliminating some of the perplexing choices of our elderly saints who have faithfully served our Lord.

GUEST OPINION:

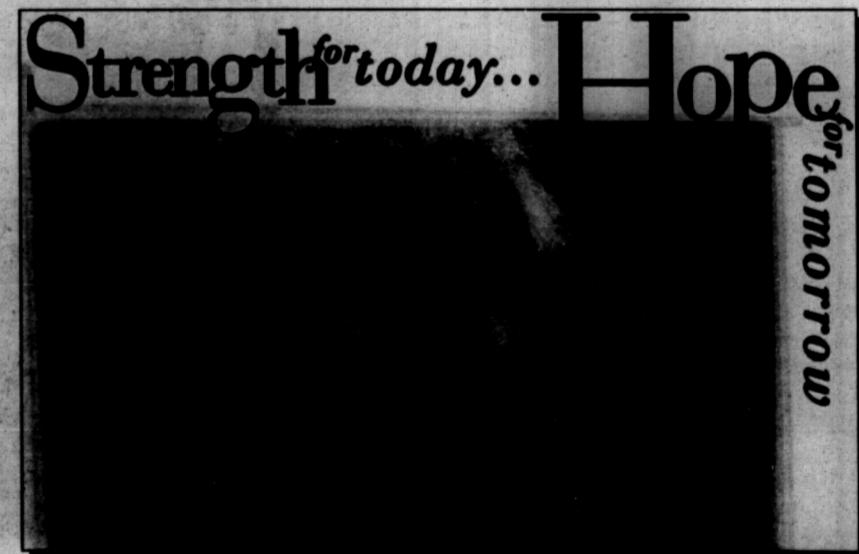


Helping those who served the Lord

By Robin D. Nichols, associate CMRA Department, MBCB

you discover an elderly minister or his widow who needs assistance, please contact the Church Minister Relations and Annuity (CMRA) Department at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The address is P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. The telephone numbers are (601) 292-3226 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 226. The e-mail address is rnichols@mbcb.org.

How can you help? The fol-



ADOPT AN ANNUITANT SUNDAY

June 24, 2001

Crossover records 1,041 decisions for Christ

NEW ORLEANS (Editor's Network) — At least 1,041 people made professions of faith as a result of Crossover New Orleans, the evangelistic blitz preceding the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting.

Heavy rains from Tropical Storm Allison put a damper on several Crossover events.

Ultimately more than 1,200 individuals had prayed to receive Jesus Christ as of June 13, and nearly 40 churches made significant progress in impacting their communities, and that was with several block parties postponed because of the weather.

The bulk of conversions resulted from an inner-city evangelism team sponsored by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board (NAMB). That team, which spent time on the city's notorious

bawdy Bourbon Street, was responsible for 520 professions of faith, according to Don Smith, a Crossover coordinator for the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

Other people took part in a "kindness explosion." Evangelist Jeff Harvel of Morristown, Tenn., his wife, Kim, and children, Collin, 3, and Katy, 9, passed out bottles of water, free long-distance phone cards, and packets provided by Woman's Missionary Union groups from Louisiana.

"We handed out hundreds of packets and bottled water," Harvel said.

People especially were receptive to taking the items

from his children, he added.

Stationed in an area near the popular Cafe Du Monde in New Orleans, the family shared Christ with people from all walks of life, he said. "We were able to minister to the world in that one spot."

Jerry Drace, an evangelist from Jackson, Tenn., said he talked about his Christian faith with four lesbians who said they traveled to New Orleans specifically to boycott the SBC annual meeting.

The opportunity to minister came when one of the women passed by Drace and he offered her a bottle of water. When asked, "What's the catch?" Drace

replied: "There is no catch. We are giving it out in the name of Jesus, who is the living water."

That gesture enabled Drace to talk with the four women in a non-threatening way, he said. "They were very surprised that I did not confront them, but rather presented the plan of salvation to them and told them God loves them."

Another 299 decisions were recorded at block parties. Hosted by area churches, volunteers provided entertainment, meals, and fellowship to reach out to the neighborhoods.

Helpers came from congregations throughout the country to sing, cook, counsel, or offer other assistance.

"We kept busy and wet," said Art Sauer, youth minister for Lakewood Church, Louisville, Ky. The church team of 16 teenagers and 15 adults came to perform with puppets, drama, a band, and

interpretive movement.

Sauer said the church where his group originally was scheduled to work postponed its party because of rain. When he called another church to offer help, he found that church's entertainment had not shown up.

"I said, 'We can help you.' ... It was just divine providence," he said. "We just let God work. It was awesome."

Heavy rains kept many neighbors away from the party at First Church, Belle Chase, but the church fellowship and working with volunteers from other congregations was a needed blessing, according to Pastor Freddie Williford. "It reaffirms that we're not in this alone," he said.

"We needed this as well, and God knew this day was going to be the day it was long before we did, and he knew we needed this," Williford added.

"Being willing to be obedient determines success, not numbers," he said.

Crossover leaders said another 128 people became Christians as a result of



ALL IN THE FAMILY — Kim Harvel (left) hands a packet of evangelism materials to a tourist in New Orleans' historic French Quarter, while her son Collin, 3, hands the tourist a bottle of water. Harvel and her husband Jeff, an itinerant evangelist, are members of Calvary Church, Morristown, Tenn. Her husband is a member of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists, which participated in the Crossover evangelistic effort held annually in the host city of the Southern Baptist Convention. (BP photo by Bob Carey)

Storm hampers attendance

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — While the rains that drenched southeast Louisiana and neighboring Texas ended just in time for the start of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), severe flooding from the remnants of Tropical Storm Allison likely kept a number of messengers from the 144th meeting of the SBC, June 12-13 at the Louisiana Superdome. As of 2:30 p.m. June 13, 9,561 Southern Baptists had arrived at the convention from their churches, according to unofficial figures compiled by SBC registration secretary Lee Portet. Registration for the year's SBC annual meeting in Orlando, Fla., was 10,000. Georgia recorded the largest number of messengers, 1,000. Other leading states were Tennessee, 800; North Carolina, 790; Mississippi, 770; and Alabama, 750. The following state-by-state registration numbers are: Alaska, 1; Arkansas, 12; Arizona, 41; Arkansas, 327; California, 1,000; Connecticut, 2; District of Columbia, 14; Florida, 1,000; Hawaii, 936; Idaho, 6; Illinois, 180; Indiana, 134; Iowa, 10; Kansas, 58; Kentucky, 427; Louisiana, 591; Maine, 1; Maryland, 73; Massachusetts, 2; Michigan, 36; Minnesota, 52; Mississippi, 770; Missouri, 26; Montana, 1; Nebraska, 1; Nevada, 24; New Hampshire, 6; New Jersey, 12; New York, 39; North Carolina, 1,000; Ohio, 1,000; Oklahoma, 159; Oregon, 6; Pennsylvania, 1,000; Rhode Island, 100; South Carolina, 1; Texas, 1,000; Utah, 12; Vermont, 2; Virginia, 47; Wisconsin, 4; Wyoming, 1. Puerto Rico had one messenger attending.

NAMB's evangelism response center, a network of phone counselors who talked with people responding to television ads offering information about the Christian faith.

Sauer said he wished more churches would take part in Crossover activities.

"It's so easy to do. It's a lot of planning, it's a lot of coordination, but it really pays off to watch God work," he said.

Looking back

10 years ago

Speaking at the 1991 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Atlanta, convention president and native Mississippian Morris Chapman, pastor of First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, tells messengers the 12-year debate "over the nature of Scripture has been settled."

20 years ago

At the 1981 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Los Angeles, Calif., convention president Bailey Smith stands firmly on the adequacy of the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message statement. "The Baptist Faith and Message statement is as strong as we need to get," Smith says.

50 years ago

An African-American woman, Daisy Pleasants, who spent her life as a domestic worker, wills one-fourth of her estate to the Foreign Mission Board (FMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention. Her gift amounts to \$1,387.50, according to FMB treasurer Everett L. Deane.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE
SECOND
FRONT PAGE

THE BAPTIST
Record

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

JUNE 21, 2001

VOL. 125

No. 20

N.O. pastor Luter rouses SBC messengers

Fellowship to restore SBC ties

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — The Southern Baptist Messianic Fellowship during its annual meeting June 11 ruled as unconstitutional a decision earlier this year by its former president to sever ties with the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). The group then elected a new slate of officers. About 45 members of the fellowship attending the meeting at the Superdome invalidated the attempt to withdraw the fellowship from the SBC, citing the organization's failure to ratify the decision through a constitutionally required amendment.

NEW ORLEANS (Editor's Network) — Fred Luter made history at last week's Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in New Orleans — and brought thousands of messengers to their feet in doing it.

In delivering a full-throttle convention sermon, Luter became the first African-American in the denomination's history to bring the annual keynote address.

He made the most of it, delivering a message that was interrupted several times by applause and that ended with messengers on their feet, calling Luter back to the podium for a final exhortation.

In many ways, it was a fitting honor for an amazing story.

In 1986, Luter was a street preacher in New Orleans when Louisiana Baptist leaders asked him to become pastor at Franklin Avenue Church.

The New Orleans congregation had undergone inner-city transition and was down to a few dozen members. Although Luter never had served as a pastor, Louisiana Baptist leaders entrusted him with the church.

They also made it plain that he was to bury it or resurrect it. Whichever one it turned out to

be was up to Luter, they said.

Luter chose not to preside over a funeral. Instead, he launched a three-pronged ministry focusing on biblical preaching, discipling men, and establishing a sense of accountability among church leaders and members.

Things began to change and then began to explode.

Fifteen years later, the church has grown to be one of the largest in the state, numbering more than 6,000 members and standing as a perennial state leader in baptisms.

Meanwhile, as Luter's story became known, Southern Baptist leaders embraced the young pastor. He began to speak across the convention. He even was elected as second vice president of the national body in 1996, the last time the annual meeting was held in New Orleans.

Upon its return to New Orleans last week, Luter again was a focus of attention.

"I realize that I'm standing on the shoulders of other African-American pastors and denominational workers... who were trailblazers long before I ever was a Southern Baptist," he said.

"My brothers, I honor you for your commitment to the Lord



LUTER FIRES UP CONVENTION — Fred Luter, pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans, presents the Convention Sermon as the 144th annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention convenes in his hometown. (BP photo by Gibbs Frazeur)

and to this convention. I want to make it known tonight, I am standing on your shoulders."

Luter then launched his sermon, based on Matthew 9:35-38. As other speakers before him, Luter focused squarely on the convention theme of evangelism. "The theme of this convention is

"Until he comes, go, ... he noted, "but the question of tonight is, are we doing just that?"

Luter asked messengers to consider what a tragedy it would be to have a fish that could not swim or a dog that could not bark or a cat that could not meow.

"It would be really sad, really tragic for none of those things to do what God created them to do," he said. "But all of those things do what God created them to do."

In contrast, consider the pain God must feel when humans do not do what God has created them to do, Luter added.

"Think of the hurt God feels when men don't want to be men. Think of the hurt God feels when women don't want to be women," he emphasized. "Think of the hurt God feels when husbands don't love and wives don't respect their husbands."

"Think of the hurt God feels when teenagers and children don't respect their parents in the Lord. Think of the hurt God feels when preachers don't practice what they preach."

"It's no wonder our nation is messed up. When people don't do what God created them to do, we reap the consequences... and that's why, Southern Baptists, the Master is calling for laborers."

Southern Baptists must heed the call, Luter declared. In doing so, he reminded Baptists to remember four things found in the Matthew 9 passage:

- The concern of Jesus.
- The compassion of Jesus.
- The cry of Jesus.
- The command of Jesus.

Southern Baptists have enough choir members, musicians, deacons, pastors, and others, Luter asserted. "We need laborers."

"What about you, my brother? What about you, my sister. Can the Lord count on you to go until he comes? Can the Lord count on you to go until he comes? ...

"Southern Baptists, can you say, 'Lord, count on me'?"

Executive board approves reorganization

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — The Southern Baptist Executive Board approved a reorganization of the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) during its annual meeting June 11-12 at the Superdome.

The reorganization was effective during the Women's Missionary Union (WMU) annual meeting. The choir is a ministry of WMU. Executive 15,000-member church where Billy Kim, president, is the pastor. The WMU offering for International Missions goal during the summer all of the Baptist World Alliance, is pastor. The WMU offering for International Missions goal member orientation meeting was held June 10-11 in the Louisiana Superdome. (BP photo by Justin Veneman)

During the WMU annual meeting, the executive board also reported that \$12,000 was given in scholarships to 12 college and seminary students. The eight college students are children of international missionaries.

Other business the executive board handled included the 2002 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions goal at \$125 million and the 2003 AAEO goal at \$53 million.

Billy Kim tells WMU America needs revival

NEW ORLEANS (Editor's Notebook) — "America is the greatest nation on earth, and God blesses America more than any other," Baptist World Alliance (BWA) President Billy Kim told attendees gathered in New Orleans June 11 for a meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Yet America needs "God's criteria for revival," he added. "Hope is in Jesus Christ."

Kim was one of the keynote speakers for the WMU annual meeting June 10-11 in New Orleans. Other speakers were Rhonda Kelley, author and wife of the president of New Orleans Seminary; Bible study leader Daniel Sanchez of Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth; and a host of international and North American missionaries.

Kim told the standing-room-only crowd that America is a blessed country, controlling more than 50% of the world's wealth but has less than six percent of the world's population.

He said America grows all possible crops in her soil, and wherever the American flag is flown, it represents peace and freedom.

THE PASTOR'S KIDS

I recall, a few years ago, when a newspaper in a small town here in Mississippi began publishing all the crimes, tickets, and various citations that were given each week. I remember the furor that broke out as the townfolks wrote letters and raised cane about the paper's new policy.

One of the big issues that people kept raising was that when the paper published the incidents naming the people involved, the principle of "innocent until proven guilty" was destroyed. If a person's name appeared in the paper over the next hours and days in barber shops, cafes, and city club meetings — they were discussed, deliberated, tried, convicted, and even punished in the court of public opinion.

On the other side of the issue stood the First Amendment, protecting freedom of speech. You can imagine that while the community and the paper clashed, one of the enjoyable features for the publisher was that more papers were sold. Neither side wanted to back down and after a while such news lost its luster.

Recently, the President's twin daughters have been in hot water! I honestly do not want to add ink or insult to their injuries. It is bad enough to have your failures highlighted as lead stories by every news organization in the world, and maybe even more problematic, to have to face Laura and George W.

Then, at some point or other, they will have to see grandmother Barbara. Although I do not agree with what they did, or the way they did it, they do not need me to add to their woes.

In light of their problems and everyone talking about them, I would like to ask you to think about your pastor's children and how you treat them.

"Now let's look at the state of the nation," said Kim. America has more pregnant teenagers, violence, crime, and suicide than many other countries. Alcoholism, homosexuality, and adultery have become accepted.

"The world watches America, and America watches TV. Farmers get paid for not farming; teachers get paid for anarchy. If (America) forgets God, she'll have to face the wrath of God. We need people who know how to pray for revival in this nation."

Kim, pastor of the 15,000-member Central Church of Suwon, Korea, emphasized the important role women in Korea play in the growth and revival of his church. Sixty percent of his members are women, and 90% of the cell-group leaders are women.

"They have a prayer meeting at 4:30 every morning, 365 days a year. I hope I'm not getting in trouble advocating women at the Southern Baptist Convention," Kim said, "but that's why Korean churches are experiencing revival."

"If the United States wants to see revival, mothers and daughters need to get on their knees," he urged.

WMU President Janet Hoffman of Farmerville, La., likened the "beyond belief" historical journey of WMU to the personal journey of Abraham.

Reminding the women that God called Abraham to leave his own country and

family to go to a place God would reveal to him, Hoffman said Abraham's journey was a "journey with a purpose, a journey of faith and a journey of promise."

Since its earliest beginnings, WMU has been on a journey with a main purpose of missions, Hoffman said.

Today, "our journey continues... with that same purpose."



KIM EXHORTS WMU

Billy Kim, president of the Baptist World Alliance, preaches during the June 10 evening session of the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting in the Louisiana Superdome. (BP photo by Justin Veneman)



YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (*I have sinned.*)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (*I repent.*)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (*I believe in Jesus.*)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with him. (*I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.*)

But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name (John 1:12).

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Directions



Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Through the years there have been jokes and stories told about the preacher's kids — how mean they are; how often they foul up; and, the various causes that made them the way they are.

Maybe not always, but most of the time, they are just normal kids that happen to be born into a family that is constantly on the public radar screen. They are just children who have a dad, who by virtue of his calling must stand up and speak to a congregation or to crowds several times each week.

They, in turn, must live up and live out according to the high principles that he espouses.

There are few, if any, who are actually up to the task, and there are many, if not most, who are ready to announce when a failure takes place.

I'm certainly no expert on this subject, but being the son of a preacher, the brother of a preacher, and the father of a preacher, I have at least lived out and seen some of the awkwardness that comes from being in a pastor's family.

Let me pass along a few suggestions that may be helpful in dealing with the preacher's kids or in dealing with children whose parents may be high-profile in the community.

The first word that I would offer is **Respect**. Our Lord Jesus said, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." We call it the Golden Rule and it ought to be one of the guiding principles in our Christian behavior.

Before we comment on Jenna or Barbara, the politician's, or the preacher's kids, it might be good to ask and evaluate, "Would I want someone saying those things about my child?"

A second word I would suggest is **Reject**. Maybe this is just the flip side of respect, but I think it is important to reject the application of a double standard.

Kids ought to be allowed to be kids in the context of their setting, and in that arena, experience both the accolades and consequences of their actions.

I recall one time one of my mom and dad's boys got caught doing something that he should not have been doing. Well, okay — I admit that it was me!

One day after church, a buddy of mine and I were playing around. What we were doing was neither immoral nor illegal, but we probably should not have been involved in the activity.

The other boy's father came and found us and expressed his horror about what "I" was doing. He said not a word to his son, but wanted me to know how disappointed he was in my actions.

As if that was not enough, he went to my dad and told him what he had found "me" doing. He never mentioned his boy and he never said anything to his son, but I was the preacher's kid and therefore, I should have known better and been better!

I'm grown up now, educated, and love the Lord with all my heart, yet I still struggle with my imperfections. I can assure you that as a nine-year

old boy, I was not able to live up to the high standards that the church folks wanted to impose on me.

At times it would have helped if people would have rejected imposing a double standard, and had allowed me the freedom to be like they thought their kids ought to be.

One last word I would like to offer is **Remember**. As you and I think about others, watch others, and even comment on the actions of others, remember your own human frailties and your own dumb decisions in days gone by.

In his letter to the church at Galatia, the Apostle Paul says, "If any man be overtaken in a fault, you which are spiritual restore such a one considering thyself."

Paul knew that whatever anyone else may have done, whatever sin, whatever fault, whatever failure, that it could have been him.

You, like me, probably have said at some point, "I would never..." You probably are right — that you would not do certain things, but there are other things that you quietly have done about which others would say, "I would never..."

Growing up I never did what the Bush girls reportedly did. In fact, I can honestly tell you that it never occurred to me to do those things.

But, I am sure that I have probably done things about which they might shake their heads and say, "I can't believe he did that!"

We would all do well to remember that Jesus warned us about the coming judgmental optometrists who go around digging out specks from other folks eyes, while having a huge plank stuck in one of their own eyes.

Maybe we should pray, "Lord, help me to be as forgiving of those great big faults I see in others as I want them to be when they see the little mistakes that I make."

JUST FOR THE RECORD

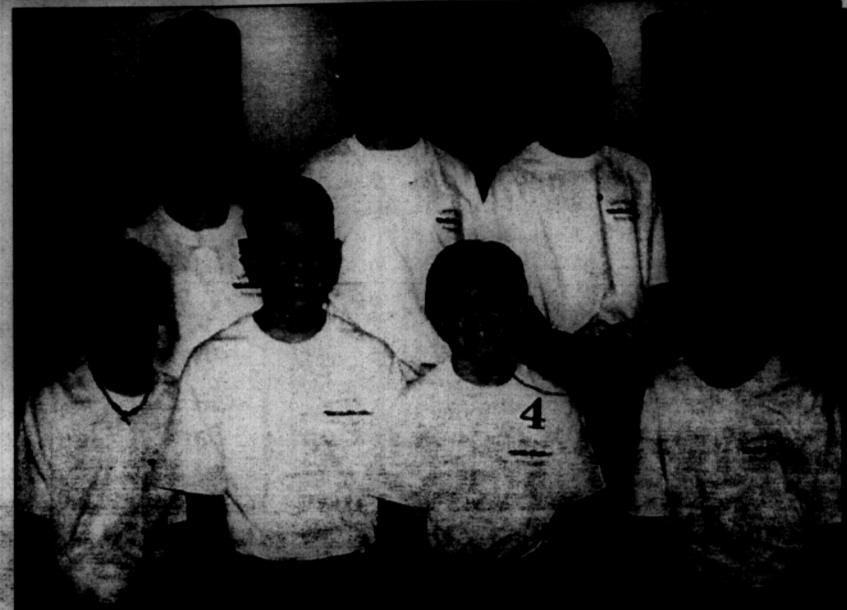


Killen, Fain, Saxon, and Apperson

The youth of Beattine Church, Neshoba County, recently participated in Bible drills. Dana Apperson rated superior at the state Bible Drill. Pictured (from left) are Lee Killen, minister of music; Paige Posey; Brian Saxon; and Apperson.

Youth and children of Locust Hill Church, Pontotoc County (pictured), who recently participated in Bible drills are (front row, from left) Bridgette Fain, Justin Werner, Sherry Armour, Luke Werner; (back row, from left) John Coltharp, Matt Brooks, and Grant Werner. Randy Buse is pastor.

First Church, Lucedale, held GAs recognition service on May 20. GAs pictured (front row, from left) are Kaitlyn Morgan, Kristyn Strahan; (second row) Maggie Branson, Brooke Havard, Natalie Gilmore, Carrie Dickerson, and Jacquelyn Ladnier; (third row) Taylor Rounsville, Toni Kittrell, Jordan Smith, Kathryn Ruth, RaeAnn Jones, Heather Mardis, Brittany Turner; and (fourth row) Hannah Adkins, Lauren Gardner, Deanna Turner, and Jamie Scott. Leaders pictured are Tracey



Bible Drill participants of Locust Hill Church, Pontotoc County

Mardis and Debbie Brannan. Nola Gilmore, leader, not pictured.

First Church, Brookhaven, recently hosted an informational seminar about China adoptions. Organizers of the meeting were Lynne Lofton and

Jennifer Misner. Peggy Bridges, social worker with Bethany Christian Services, presented the requirements and process

for adopting a child from China. For additional information, call Bridges at (601) 366-4282 or (800) 331-5876.



GAs of First Church, Lucedale

Revival dates

Friendship, McComb: July 6-8; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Steve Wilson, Brandon, evangelist; Joe Elliott, McComb, music; LaVerne Summerlin, pastor.

Airport, Grenada: July 9-11; 7 p.m. nightly; Tim Williams, Grenada, evangelist; Bobby McKay, pastor.

Pleasant Grove Church, Gore Springs: June 24-29; 7 p.m.; different speakers each night; Neil T. Gant, pastor.

Pinola (Simpson): June 24-27; Sunday, homecoming 11 a.m., followed with lunch; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Matt Buckles, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist; Brad Griffin, music evangelist; Tim Jordan, pastor.



GA Recognition Service was held on May 20 at First Church, Pontotoc. Pictured with the GAs is Ken Hester, pastor.

BAPTIST COLLEGE NEWS



Spain, Nethery, and Fisher

Mary Jane Nethery (center), a 1952 graduate, was named 2001 Alumna of the Year by the Blue Mountain College Alumnae Association during the May meeting. Sarah Spain (left), association

president is shown making the presentation with President E. Harold Fisher.

Van Winkle Church Furnishings & Pew Upholstery
Pews, pulpits, baptistries, stained glass, carpet, steeples, lighting, folding doors, theater seats.
Box 501, Fulton, MS 38843
In MS: Toll Free 1-800-624-9627

LITTLE GIANT MFG. CO.
Furniture
TOLL FREE 1-800-231-6035



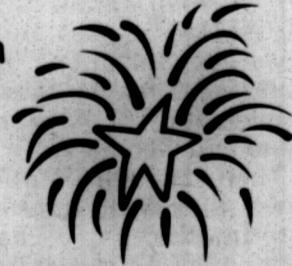
Members of First Church, Brookhaven

COUNTRY WOODS BAPTIST CHURCH

presents

Byram's 4th of July Celebration
of God and Country
Wednesday, July 4, 2001
Activities begin at noon
Fireworks at 9:15 p.m.

Come for food, games, and music



Country Woods Baptist Church
6737 Siwell Road
For Information Call:
(601) 371-7955

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

June 21, 2001

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Office of Communication.

2001 Family Week

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, July 2-6, 2001

Conferences:

- Preschool / Children's TeamKIDS
- Mini-Centrifuge with *Mickey and Alice Little, Mobile*
- Couples - *Ronnie and Beverly Cottingham, Lucedale*
- Single Parenting *James Hayes, FBC, Biloxi*
- Transformational Hearts *Eugene Dobbs, Philadelphia, Miss.*

Special Events:

- BBQ cookout
- Whole "free" day
- Crafts, clowning workshops
- Ice cream and watermelon fellowship
- Night swimming

Special Guests:

- His Praise Ensemble, Vicksburg
- Hilton Family Singers
- Joseph Harris, magician

For more information contact the Discipleship and Family Ministry Department
1-800-748-1651 or 601-968-3800

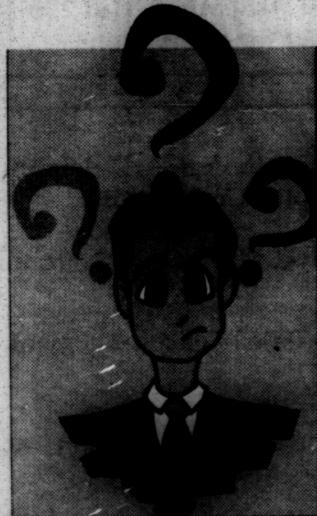
A WMU regional training event, featuring:
Wanda Lee, executive director, WMU, SBC
Esther Burroughs, noted author & speaker
Gwen Williams, worship leader
Missionaries
Nine conference sessions

Midwest Conference Registration

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: (home) _____ (w) _____
Church: _____
Association: _____

- Package includes transportation, 4 nights lodging, program fee and conference meals. (Travel meals are on your own.)
- Total cost due at registration. Deadline to register, July 10.
- Substitutions may be made at any time. No refunds after July 24.
- Make checks payable to MBCB (designate for Windermere Women's Conference) and mail with registration form to Mississippi WMU, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.
- Contact Miss. WMU office for more information, in Jackson, 292-3316, or 1-800-748-1651 or E-mail: tanderson@mcb.org.

Travel Schedule: Depart from Garaywa, Aug. 15; Conference, Aug. 16-17; Depart from Windermere, spend night en route to Mississippi, Aug. 18; Arrive at Garaywa, Aug. 19.



Leadership Conferences

Younger Preschool
Older Preschool
Younger Children
Middle Children
Older Children
Younger Youth
Older Youth
Young Adults
Median Adults
Senior Adults
General Officers
Pastor/Staff

Ever had this thought?

"If I could just do a few things to make my Sunday School better..."
Then Super Saturday is for you!

Super Saturday

CHOOSE FROM ONE OF THREE CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

Saturday, August 25, 9 a.m.-noon

- First Baptist Church, Grenada
- Main Street Baptist Church, Hattiesburg

Saturday, September 8, 9 a.m.-noon

- Poplar Springs Drive Baptist Church, Meridian

Cost: \$2 per person, which covers all conference materials as well as a copy of the book, "Beyond the Walls: Ten Best Practices."

Conference leaders will be special Sunday School equippers from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board as well as LifeWay conference leaders.

For more info, please contact the MBCB Sunday School Department at
1-800-748-1651 or 1-601-968-3800

CML

M I N I S T R Y

VOLUME LIBRARIES::

2001
*Ephesians 4:4-6***SESSION
DESCRIPTIONS**

- **TEAMWORK-DEWEY, SEARS AND ME**
Leader: Eva Nell Hunter
- **AUTOMATION WITH CONCOURSE**
Leader: Eva Nell Hunter
- **CONCOURSE EXTRAS**
Leader: Eva Nell Hunter
- **PROMOTION LAGNIAPPE**
Leaders: Eva Nell Hunter and Sue Berthelot
- **CHURCH MEDIA LIBRARY MINISTRY**
Leader: Sue Berthelot
- **MEDIA SELECTION**
(with emphasis on weeding)
Leader: Sue Berthelot

For more info, contact:
Broadcast Services, MBCB
1-800-748-1651 or in Jackson
601-968-3800

Gulfshore
Baptist
Assembly

Summer 2001

Church Media
Library
Conference
Growing
Churches
Through
Discipleship

**CONFERENCE FEES
AT GULFSHORE**

Registration will begin at 1:30 pm.
A" unit (2 persons per room)

Adults	86.20
Youth	86.20
Child (Age 2-11)	41.85
Babies	2.00

"C" unit (2-4 persons per room)

Adults	78.60
Youth	42.50
Child (Age 2-11)	23.75
Babies	2.00

All reservations must be made
directly with GULFSHORE
BAPTIST ASSEMBLY. Call 228-
452-7261 for reservations.

OUTREACH**TEAMS**

No pre-registration
No cost for conference
No child care

THAT WIN

**G . R . O . W .
C O N F E R E N C E****G•R•O•W**

August 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church, Brookhaven

**Leader: Jerry Tidwell**

Author and developer of *Outreach Teams That Win: G.R.O.W.*

Also: Lonnie Sanders
Minister of Education
West Jackson Baptist Church
Jackson, Tenn.

"G.R.O.W." is based on Dr. Tidwell's phenomenally successful outreach approach. Under this proven-effective plan church members are asked to commit just one evening each month to outreach...with several different avenues from which they can choose. You will not want to miss this opportunity!

For more information, please contact the
Sunday School Department at 1-800-748-1651 or
968-3800 in Jackson, or e-mail (jclendinning@mbcb.org).

**Pastor
Wife and
Retreat**

August 10-11, 2001
Gulfshore Baptist Assembly



Leaders: L.B. and Nancy Jordan, Arkadelphia, Ark. L.B. is retired director of Church-Minister Relations, Arkansas Baptist Convention.

Music/Worship Leader: Eric McNair, minister of music, McLaurin Heights Baptist Church, Pearl

Purpose: To provide a time of encouragement, inspiration and fellowship for pastors and wives.

Reservation and Registration:

- Participation is limited to the first hundred (100) couples that register for this retreat. This number is based on the available private accommodations at Gulfshore.
- You may use the 2001 *Gulfshore Baptist Assembly Information* brochure's registration form or register using the form below.

Cost Per Person: Adults, \$44.50 Children ages 12 & up, \$24.75 Children ages 2-11, \$13.63 Children under 2, \$1 Full scholarships for pastors are available, but each will be responsible for the cost of his wife and/or children. Please indicate choice on the registration form below.

Childcare: Supervised care will be made available for preschoolers, children and youth.

Pastor & Wife Retreat Registration • August 10-11, 2001

Name _____ Church _____

Address _____ city _____ state _____ zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Please indicate the type of accommodations needed: Couple only Couple with children
Total number in family _____ Ages of children _____ Scholarship for pastors only: yes no

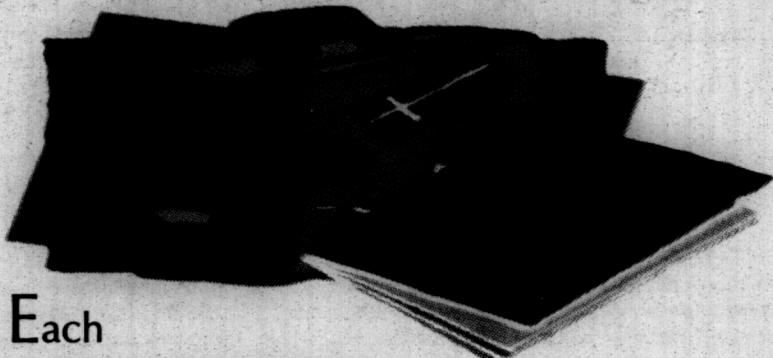
Please mail or fax to: Frank Simmons, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, 100 First Street, Pass Christian, MS 39571.
Phone: 228-452-7261 Fax: 228-452-7263

Please include a deposit of \$40 per person and \$80 per family. MasterCard and Visa are accepted.

Sponsored by: Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, Matt Buckles, director

For more info: Call the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department at 1-800-748-1651 or 1-601-292-3305.

VOLUNTEER MISSION REPORT



Each year our department is responsible for reporting to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board the number of people in Mississippi who were involved in volunteer missions, where they went, etc.

Please help us by reporting your church and/or association involvement. Complete and return to us a copy of the form for each project in which your people (individuals, youth, adults, etc.) participated.

Contact the Men's Ministry, MBCB, for a report form. Remember to send your report by August 15!

Be sure to include all projects from August 2000 to August 2001

Call: 1-800-748-1651 or
in Jackson, 601-968-3800

Growing Churches Conference

*"Equipping
Church Leaders
for the 21st Century"*

**Growing Churches
Through Discipleship**

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly
July 26-28

For more information
Discipleship and Family Ministry Department, MBCB
1-800-748-1651 or 968-3800 (in Jackson)

Mississippi St. WU Church Leadership Training

FOR ALL CHURCH WMU LEADERSHIP

August 6

FBC Batesville, 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

August 7

FBC Gulfport, 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

August 9

Camp Garaywa (two sessions, attend one only)

1 p.m. - 4 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

No cost/No registration required

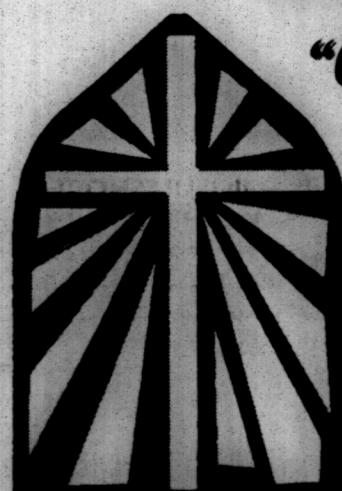
For more info, call the Mississippi WMU department at
1-800-748-1651 or in Jackson, 601-292-3316 or E-mail: tanderson@mccb.org

WMU Women's Retreat

"Only Jesus...Beyond Belief!"

August 24-25

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly



ONLY
JESUS



Jaye Martin
Women's
Evangelism
Strategist
NAMB, SBC



Teri Metts
Hem Touchers
Ministry
Crossgates BC
Brandon, Miss.



Mirta
Vazquez
(Hispanic
Women's
Retreat)

Also featuring Joan Tyler, Sandra Nash and Pam Carlisle

WOMEN'S RETREAT REGISTRATION

Church _____

Cost: • \$50 (no refunds after Aug. 3)

Association _____

• \$28.25 (no lodging), includes
registration and meals

Address _____

• \$13 registration fee only
(no lodging or meals)

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Call Gulfshore Baptist Assembly at
(228)452-7261 to register by phone
using your MasterCard or Visa.

Phone _____

Make checks payable to:

E-mail _____

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

Contact person _____

Phone _____

Mail registration form and payment to:

E-mail _____

Women's Retreat

No. of Women _____ x Cost Per Person =

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Gulfshore Baptist Assembly
100 First Street
Pass Christian, MS 39571

Pray this day for...

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 601-292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-7729 (PRAY)

"Prayer is the expression of man's sense of dependence and helplessness. Man spontaneously calls for help in moments of peril, and in moments of exaltation he ascribes praise to the power that controls his destiny."

From the "Gospel of Redemption, by W. T. Conner

Thank God that ISC workers Gary and Bertha Fagan arrived in Brasilia to lead the International Baptist Church. This church ministers to English-speaking diplomats and members of the business community. Pray for the Fagans and this ministry.

For: Citizenship & Religious Liberty Sunday (Christian Action Commission Emphasis); (2) Pray for movements of God's Spirit among the women of Dhaka city, Bangladesh. Some have said that women are the strategic key to the Muslim world.

For: (1) Royal Ambassador/Challenger Camp; Central Hills Retreat, (Men's Ministry); (2) GA Summer Camp; Camp Garaywa, (WMU); (3) Pray for Prime Minister Peter Mafany Musonge of Cameroon (between Nigeria and Chad).

For: (1) Family Enrichment Conference, Gulfshore Assembly, (D&FM); (2) GA Summer Camp, Camp Garaywa, (WMU); (3) Pray today for Prime Minister Jean Chretien of Canada.

Continue to pray for the university ministry in Cordoba, Argentina, that is making contacts through English-conversation groups. Also pray that God will send others to Argentina to continue this work with the 120,000 students in Cordoba.

Missionaries Mark and Liz Bethune of Venezuela ask you to pray for the pastors of Los Valles del Tuv who have come together to form a mission coalition. The first mission offering was gathered, and the churches are excited that they exceeded their goal!

Missionaries David and Joy Borgman thank God for new Christians baptized on Easter Sunday at the prison in Spain. Joy writes: "Two of them, only six months ago, were shouting out and making fun of their Christian friends who were being baptized."

Independence Day - Pray for God's mercies and favor upon our nation and for its welfare. Pray for our president, his cabinet, legislators and ambassadors to have God in their public and private lives. Pray for God's protection of our police, firefighters, etc.

Julio Ruiz, of Delta, BC, Canada, is a church planter pastor at Primera Iglesia Bautista. He is recovering from heart surgery. Pray that he will rest in the Lord and allow his body to recover quickly and completely. Pray for the interim pastor.

For: (1) Baptist Building AT HOME DAYS; (2) Older Children's Retreat; Central Hills; (3) Pray that the heart of the Maldives government would be moved to a more favorable disposition to the Word of God.

For (1) Lad/Dad Weekend Camp; Central Hills Retreat; (2) Mother/Daughter Overnight; Camp Garaywa, (WMU); (3) Heartsong '01 Youth Music Conference, (Church Music)

22

In Nepal, after the tragic deaths of many members of the royal family, pray that the new king will rule with fairness and diplomacy. Pray that he might have the opportunity to meet the King of Kings and follow Him. Pray that God will use these circumstances to draw people to Himself.

Godly men meet weekly for prayer and Bible study in a courtyard in Cote D'Ivoire. A blind woman who overheard their discussion received Christ as her Savior. Pray for this woman, as she is blind and struggles with daily living because of her disability.

Mississippi Baptist Youth Night

Mississippi Coliseum
Jackson
Friday, July 27
6:30-9:00 p.m.

Plan Now
to Bring Your
Church Youth Group



Rick Ousley
Speaker

Michael John Clement
Worship Leader

For more information, contact: MBCB Evangelism Department
1-800-748-1651 or 968-3800 (in Jackson)

Mississippi Baptist State Softball Tournament Dates

	Sunday School Enrollment	Dates
Class A	0-300	July 20-21
Class AA	301-700	July 27-28
Class AAA	701 & above	August 10-11

For more info,
contact:
Tom Prather
Men's Ministry
MBCB
1-800-748-1651 or
601-292-3337

Take a moment to send a card to encourage
the children of our missionaries!

1-91

MICHELLE S. BUSH
B.P. 15, Kenieba, MALI
Parents: Karl & Lena Bush
Community Outreach
SERVE IN WEST AFRICA

6-83

AUDRA C. FUNDERBURK
01 B.P. 6491, Abidjan 01, COTE D'IVOIRE (IVORY COAST)
Parents: Rickey & Lori Funderburk, Administrative Associate
SERVE IN WEST AFRICA

20-00

BENTON E. HEWITT, III
Baptist Medical Centre, Box 50, Nalerigu, via Gambaga, GHANA
Parents: Earl & Ramona Hewitt, Medicine
SERVE IN WEST AFRICA

28-86

ROSS E. FUNDERBURK
01 B.P. 6491, Abidjan 01, COTE D'IVOIRE (IVORY COAST)
Parents: Rickey & Lori Funderburk, Administrative Associate
SERVE IN WEST AFRICA

31-82

MARK W. HENDRICKS
9200 UNIVERSITY BLVD, P O Box 118087
CSU Box 255, Charleston, SC 29423
Parents: Larry & Mary Hendricks, General Evangelism
SERVE IN MIDDLE AMERICA

HOUSE TOPS.

JUST FOR THE RECORD



East Miss Falls Church, Miss Point, held groundbreaking and dedication services for its new church building on Sunday, June 3. A total of 45 people were in attendance. Pictured (from left) are Ernest Sadler, missions director, Jackson County Association; Alva Ray McCorkle, pastor; Denson Smith, deacon; Eugene Stauffer, trustee; Jim Moore, trustee; Billy Wilks, trustee; Larry Carpenter, deacon; Richard Canfield, treasurer; Eugene Smith, deacon; Norman Wells, chairman of the deacons; J. Robert Lott, director of music; and Webb Steadman, building contractor.

First Church, Fulton, held dedication services for its new facility on May 6. The church celebrated its first Sunday in the new facilities on April 29 with Futral and Winders

Futral and Winders

221 in Sunday School and 295 in morning worship service. The facility has education space for 554 and a sanctuary that will seat 576 people. Speakers for the week were Jim Futral, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB); Walter Price of Beaumont, Calif.; Martin Hayden of Liberty; Roy McHenry of Aberdeen; Billy Langley of Tupelo; and former interim pastor, Ed Deuschle, MBCB. Pictured with Futral is Tommy Winders, pastor of First Church.

Youth choir of Liberty Church, Liberty, will present the musical, *Rescue 101*, at the church on July 1 at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. This is the home concert after returning from their tour to New York, June 21-29. The group is made up of students from three school districts and three schools. The musical is under the direction of Danny Von Kanel, minister of music.



Members of Trinity Church, Philadelphia

Trinity Church, Philadelphia, recently presented plaques to Wayne Hill, pastor, and Kenneth Breland. The plaques stated that the members of Trinity Church will be placing a stained glass window in the new sanctuary in appreciation of their dedicated service to the church.

Homecomings

First, Pontotoc: July 29; 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.; noon meal in fellowship hall; 1:30 p.m. singing; Gordon Sansing, Forest, guest speaker; Jim Hess, music; Ken Hester, pastor.

Corinth, Heidelberg, July 1; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner on the grounds followed with the Hill Family singing; Edd Holloman, speaker.

Youth choir of Liberty Church, Liberty

STATE CHANGES

Friendship Church, McComb, has called Jamie Jackson as minister of youth, effective June 6. A native of McComb, Jackson received his education at Southwest Mississippi Community College, Summit, and Mississippi College. He previously served as interim youth minister at Friendship Church, McComb. LaVerne Summerlin is pastor.

McCondys Church, McCondys, has called Steve Griffin as pastor. A native of Chickasaw County, he is a graduate of Mississippi State University, New Orleans Seminary, and has done work toward his doctorate of ministry at Wake Forest Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

First Church, Verona, has called Marc D. Howard as pastor effective April 30. A native of Belmont, Howard received his education at Bethany Bible College, Dothan, Ala., and Southern Baptist School of Biblical Studies, Jacksonville,

Fla. His previous place of service was First Church, Gordo, Ala. Other churches he served were Calvary, Belmont; East Prentiss, New Site; and Holly, Corinth.

Mt. Oliver Church, Meridian, has called Terry L. Upchurch as pastor effective May 27. Upchurch is a graduate of Northeast Louisiana University and New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was Crenshaw Church, Crenshaw, Upchurch.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Park Place
Baptist Church

Pearl, Mississippi

Dr. Bob Dominy, Pastor

For securing \$1.25 million of
20-year fixed rate financing at 8.09%

For information contact:

Mark McNeese
Regional Vice President
601-948-4500
800-748-9877



PART-TIME MUSIC DIRECTOR for Deerfield Church, P.O. Box 973, Madison, MS 39130; (601) 856-5959 or fax: (601) 898-1874.

PART-TIME YOUTH/MUSIC MINISTER in Neshoba County. Send resumes to Beatline Baptist Church, Search Committee, 12345 Road 505, Philadelphia, MS 39350. Daytime (601) 656-3653, leave message.

CHILDHOOD MINISTRIES DIRECTOR needed. Please send resume to Morrison Heights Baptist Church, 201 Morrison Drive, Clinton, MS 39056 or fax to (601) 924-5622, ATTN: Jennifer.

PART-TIME PIANIST NEEDED & part-time youth/children's minister needed. Please send resume to Hurley Baptist Church, P.O. Box 395, Hurley, MS 39555.

Arkansas Bus Sales, Inc.

No CDL Required

Van Replacement 15 Passenger
Call Toll Free (800) 822-5307

Mississippians honored at NOBTS luncheon

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

It can be considered quite a coup for Mississippi Baptists, when three of five Distinguished Alumni Awards at New Orleans Seminary (NOBTS) go to "our own."

At the 2001 National Alumni and Friends Reunion June 13 on the NOBTS campus, Mississippians Kermit McGregor, Thomas Messer, and Mary Wheeler Messer were all recognized for distinguished service as NOBTS alumni.

McGregor is pastor of First Church, Mendenhall, and the current president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

"If there is a job in Mississippi Baptist life, this man has either had it or said 'no,'" quipped NOBTS President Chuck Kelley in his introduction of McGregor.

"He's been an outstanding denominational servant as well

as a fine local church pastor."

"It's very unusual to have a husband and wife recognized as distinguished

alumni," Kelley stated in his introduction of Thomas and Mary Messer.

"These are very precious friends of this institution. They've both made valuable contributions over the years. Mary Messer served for many years as Baptist Student Union director at Southeast Missouri State University, and Thomas Messer pastored several different churches as well as holding the Baptist Chair of the Bible at the same university.

"They have helped us establish scholarship funds for the seminary," Kelley continued. "This past year the Vatican made available a very limited number of facsimile copies of the Codex Vaticanus, one of the most important manuscripts of ancient Scripture existing in the world today.

"The Messers very graciously gave us the gift to allow us to be one of the few institutions in the world to have one of the facsimile copies of this document."

Messer took advantage of the moment to reminisce.

"I don't know what they're charging you folks at the seminary now," he said, "but when I enrolled they charged me 20

MESSERS RECEIVE AWARDS — Thomas Messer (right) and his wife Mary (center) receive Distinguished Alumni Awards from NOBTS President Chuck Kelley. Thomas Messer is a former professor at Southeast Missouri State University; his wife is the former Baptist Student Union director at the same institution. (Photo by Tony Martin)

dollars." Gesturing to his wife, Mary, he continued, "They charged her ten. I understand they're still letting the wives go through for half of the price of the husband. I hear it's gone up a bit."

"I want to thank the Lord for what he's done," said Mary Messer. "We know of no better place to share than this seminary."

MCGREGOR HONORED — Kermit McGregor (right), pastor of First Church, Mendenhall, and current president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, receives a Distinguished Alumni Award from New Orleans Seminary President Chuck Kelley. (Photo by Tony Martin)

Pine Level, Leakesville: July 5-7; Thurs. and Fri., 6:30 p.m.; Sat., 9-noon; David Grayson, interim pastor.

Leaf River Church, Smith County: June 25-29; 6-9 p.m.; preschool age through sixth

grade; commencement, Sunday, July 1, 11 a.m., followed with lunch.

Lowrey Memorial Church, Tippah County: had an average daily attendance of 35 children for Vacation Bible School.

Thrasher Church, Booneville: held Vacation Bible School, June 4-8, with an average attendance of 125 nightly. Directors were Sandy Johnson and Laci Huddleston. Kevin Merritt is pastor.

GREAT NATION INVESTMENT CORP. invites your indication of interest to: **FIRST MORTGAGE CHURCH BONDS** EARN UP TO: **9.25%**

These bonds may be placed in a self-directed IRA. Transfers and rollovers accepted, in most cases.

Interest Payable Quarterly

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy. All offers are made by prospectus only.

GREAT NATION INVESTMENT CORP.

5408-A Bell • Amarillo TX 79109

Member NASD, SIPC

For more complete information about bond issues, obtain a prospectus which describes all of the particulars of the undertaking. Read it carefully before you invest or send money.

All bonds are offered at face value, subject to availability.

CALL OR WRITE TO:

Christy Overby 1-800-288-4183
341 Dover Lane Local:
Madison, MS (601) 858-9158
38110

CFI — PEWS, NEW & used. Baptaries, steeples, & stained glass, MS & AL. (800) 830-0583.

WE SPECIALIZE IN VANS Featuring 6 to 15 passenger vans, customized and panel vans. Daily and weekly rates. Auto & Truck Rental, Jackson (601) 948-3391. Since 1965.

INTERIOR ELEMENTS STAINED GLASS STUDIO: Custom church windows. Columbus - toll free (877) 477-1899.

NORRIS BOOKBINDING COMPANY, INC. Old Bibles rebound. Also church bulletins and hymnals. For more information call (662) 453-7424 or fax us at (662) 455-6743. Located at 107 North Stone Avenue, Greenwood, MS 38930.

PARADISE LANES: Mississippi's smoke and alcohol free Bowling Center. Call about Lock-ins, group rates, fund raisers, and leagues. Located at 820 Cooper Road, Jackson, Miss., (601) 372-7700.

HEIDELBERG STAINED GLASS, Meridian. Design, Fabrication, Repair. Fax illustrations to (601) 483-7958 or call (800) 368-2705.

UNIQUE NEW FUND RAISER. Sell charming, nostalgic Heirlooms of Tomorrow. Personalized Bible bookmarks. Free sample & details. John D. Eagan, 4032 Franklin Ave., New Orleans, LA 70122.

CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY Free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

ECONOMY PASSION PLAY PACKAGE FOR GROUPS. Tickets, lodging, and meals, all for just \$36 at Keller's Country Dorm Resort, Eureka Springs, Ark. Call (800) 859-8952.

NORTH RIPLEY BAPTIST CHURCH PARSONAGE 4-bedroom house and lot. Mockingbird Lane, Ripley, Miss. Call Charles Hill (662) 837-7188.

SUPER GRACE BEACH HOUSE for rent. Excellent for staff retreats or family vacations. Located in a private subdivision at the beach at Fort Morgan, Ala. Visit our website at <http://supergrace.jumptravel.com> or call Allan or Linda Rankin at (888) 784-4025.

USED PEWS FOR SALE! Approx. 450 with upholstered seats. \$6 per foot. Contact Paul Moragne at (985) 960-1340 or e-mail pmoragne@neosoft.com.



VBS participants at Lowrey Memorial Church, Tippah County

CARPENTER BUS SALES, INC. (800) 370-6180

"RAISED ROOF" VANS IN STOCK

- Center Aisle
- Low First Step
- 2/1 Seating with Bucket Seats
- More headroom
- 15 Passengers (no CDL)

2001 Model: \$36,900 (new)
2000 Model: \$35,000 (new)

www.carpenterbus.com

National & church bus dealer

Baptist teens hard at work during meeting |

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

Call them the unsung heroes of the Southern Baptist Convention.

These are the pages, a carefully selected cadre of young men and ladies who were charged with keeping many of the physical details moving smoothly at the 2001 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans on June 12-13.

Two teenagers from Mississippi served as pages during the convention.

Kimberly Cole, a member of First Church, Brandon, served as a page by virtue of being one of six National Acteens Panelists.

"This was a very selective group," Cole said. "It's quite an honor to be chosen."

Cole arrived in New Orleans the Thursday before the convention began. After attending the Woman's Missionary Union meeting — and participating in the Acteens presentation there — she began her service as a convention page.

"My main



AT HER POST — Kimberly Cole of First Church, Brandon, awaits her next assignment as a page in the office of the recording secretary at the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting June 12-13 in New Orleans. Cole was also one of six National Acteens Panelists chosen this year from across the SBC. (Photo by Tony Martin).

job was to just assist staff people at the convention," Cole said.

"That might involve helping people at the microphones, helping with registration, running errands, or distributing materials in the press room."

Cole, always smiling, continued, "It's a lot of work but it's a lot of fun."

Cole is the daughter of Lloyd and Becky Cole of Brandon. She will be a senior at Brandon High School in the upcoming academic year.

Cole's activities as an Acteens Panelist were highlighted in the April 19 issue of The Baptist Record.

have to keep registration stocked with materials, know where all the events are, but mostly we're here to keep folks happy.

"There are plenty of other responsibilities," he continued, gesturing to a messenger standing by the microphone. "We have to take care of motions and resolutions from here on the floor, run messages from the emergency center to the right people, and generally be available to help the convention staff."

Blair arrived in New Orleans Friday before the convention. He participated in Crossover New Orleans, the annual effort by Southern Baptists to touch the residents of the convention host cities with the Gospel of Christ.

"We were giving free gift bags to folks in the French Quarter," Blair said, "and one lady, a Hindu, wanted to trade one of her 'gods' for what I had. It was pretty wild."

Blair was chosen as a page by virtue of his participation in the Challenger program at his church, and upon recommendation by the Men's Ministry department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and the North American Mission Board. He is the son of Gary and Deborah Blair of Clinton, and attends Horn Lake High School. His father is pastor of Oak Forest Church, Jackson.



MANNING THE MICROPHONE — Jonathan Blair of Oak Forest Church, Jackson, was one of several pages who were responsible for attending to the microphones that messengers used to offer resolutions, debate, or other issues during the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in New Orleans. Blair is in the Challenger ministry of his church and was nominated to be a page by the Men's Ministry Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. (Photo by Tony Martin)

ERLC maps out steps to ending Disney boycott

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Four years after the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) first targeted the Walt Disney Company with a boycott, an SBC agency has laid out what it sees as the requirements for ending the boycott: cease its promotion of homosexuality as a normative lifestyle and allow evangelicals the same access to the entertainment giant as enjoyed by the homosexual community.

Prompted by a motion made during the 2000 SBC annual meeting in Orlando, Fla., the SBC's Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC) annual report to the convention proposes four "specific, measurable expectations" the Disney Company must meet before Southern Baptists consider lifting the boycott.

The resolution, calling for Southern Baptists "to refrain from patronizing" the entertainment giant and any of its subsidiaries, was adopted by messengers to the 1997 Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) meeting in Dallas. It noted, "The Disney Company has not only ignored our concerns, but flagrantly furthered this moral digression in its products and policies."

The ERLC's 2001 annual report calls for Disney to cease its promotion of "Gay Days" at its theme parks; halt the publication of pro-homosexual books;

refrain from advocating the "radical homosexual agenda" through its broadcast venues; and "establish an advisory committee of Southern Baptists and other evangelicals" to provide Disney "advice and counsel" on their entertainment projects.

The report does not bind the convention as to how the boycott is handled, said ERLC president Richard Land. "This is our trustees' response to a motion from the convention. The convention is free to affirm, ignore, or adapt these recommendations," Land said.

The call for economic action against Disney and other Hollywood studios can only be rescinded or modified by a vote of the SBC. The resolution known best for its call to boycott Disney urged Southern Baptists "to take the stewardship of their time, money, and resources so seriously" that they would withhold support of "any company that promotes immoral ideologies and practices."

In a move unrelated to this report, Disney officials announced June 11 that the Disney Channel would no longer feature music videos and concert specials. According to a USA Today report, Disney Channel general manager Rich Ross indicated that "increasingly risqué videos" at least partially contributed to the kid-oriented channel's change of policy.

In other news, Disney announced in March their intention to cut their workforce by 4,000 employees company-wide.

According to the news report, the media conglomerate will trim its workforce by an additional 1,000 worldwide by the end of July.



FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Staying faithful

Matthew 26:39-41



By Kathy Mord Alford

The weary disciples thought the long, eventful day was ending as they walked to Gethsemane. They were not surprised when Jesus, as usual, retreated to pray; but, apparently, this night was not to be typical. Jesus uncharacteristically asked for help while he prayed in the distance.

"Watch with me," he asked Peter, James, and John. "Be vigilant. Don't leave me alone to deal with this crushing sorrow."

Had Jesus ever asked anything for himself from his disciples? He did on that dark night of shadows. He, who had supplied their every need for the past three and a half years, asked only that they watch with him, to hearten him in his

intense grief for what he must face.

Of course, they would watch. After all, Jesus was not only their teacher and friend, but he was also the Messiah. Who better to watch with him than the leaders he was preparing for his kingdom?

Besides, it was their covenant duty to do whatever he asked. The new covenant Jesus had cut with them that very night demanded that any request made of a blood brother be met — no appeal could be denied.

Since all Jesus had, as the Son of God, now belonged to them, his covenant brothers, they were equipped with the very power of God to overcome the enemy. Of course, they would watch.

Later he came to them and

found them asleep. One hour was all he had asked, one hour to comfort him in his need.

Even then, he looked out for their needs, interceding to the Father for their safety, and warning them of the temptation of physical weakness. Would he have asked anything of them that they could not give?

As a covenant blood brother and as a loving God, he could not request what they could not provide. In fact, what he asked them to do was ultimately for their gain.

"Keep watching and praying, that you may not be tempted," Jesus said, knowing this was the only way the disciples could overcome adversity and obey him.

In asking them to sacrifice an hour's rest, he offered them the supernatural opportunity to be sustained for the future. God the Father would strengthen them just as he had strengthened Jesus, not removing burdens, but supplying fortitude

to endure them.

"The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak," Jesus told Peter. "It is my spirit, not your own, abiding in you now. You have the power of my love and it is stronger than your impotent human nature."

It is significant that Jesus chose to spend his last night on earth in an olive grove, near an olive press. Because of the importance of the olive crop in Israel, the olive tree and its oil were used frequently throughout Scripture to portray God, his blessing, his people, and the Messiah.

The process of harvesting olives would have been familiar to the Jews. Blackened olives were put into a basin, where a millstone crushed them. The pulp was then scooped into woven baskets, which were stacked and pressed with stone weights.

The first pressing produced the best oil. Additional weights were added to obtain more oil of lesser quality. The oil flowed out of the baskets into a pit and was stored in clay jars in a cool area.

It was used in cooking, as fuel for lamps, and for medicinal, cosmetic, and spiritual anointing.

Jesus was pressed, and, though his undeserved suffering and death were the immediate result, they were the means allowing us to be beneficiaries of eternal life. When the disciples were pressed that night, their harvest was temporary, selfish comfort, benefiting not even themselves.

We too are pressed when temptation comes. Our reaction to the pressure proves our commitment as believers.

Evidence of our covenant faithfulness, be it pure or counterfeit, mature or childish, yields our harvest, determining how much light will shine through us and how God can use us to bless others.

Just as light-giving, anointing oil is produced when ripened olives are pressed, what we produce during temptation comes from the fruit in our lives.

Alford is a member of First Church, McComb.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Worship sincerely

Amos 5:4-9; 21-27



By Harold Simmons

Robert Fulton, an artist and engineer was responsible in the early 1800s for putting the sailing ship out of business. He made the steamship a standard on the open seas. It is said that he presented his idea to Napoleon.

After a few minutes of this presentation, Napoleon is reported to have said, "What, sir, you would make a ship sail against the wind and currents by lighting a bonfire under her decks? I pray you excuse me. I have no time to listen to such nonsense."

The comment of Napoleon was the heart-felt reaction of the people of Israel to the preaching of Amos — "I (we) have no time to listen to such nonsense." That did not stop

Amos from continuing the work God had given to him.

Amos sings a song (vv. 1-3). Amos began to sing a dirge or funeral song. The words are sorrow-filled and the tune must have been dreadful and dark. Amos tells of what is to come upon them and the destiny of their nation by saying "never to rise again."

He tells how complete the destruction will be: "A thousand go out and one hundred return... a hundred go out and ten return."

Amos may be suggesting that God will save only a remnant. Amos drives home the point of how sad it is for this nation to neglect their God. A seemingly healthy nation is about to die because they have

neglected God and they don't realize it because they are "religious." They have an insidious disease that is rotting the core of their nation.

Not gone or forgotten (vv. 4-17). The people had not forgotten the Lord. Israel had mixed worship of God with the worship of idols. In so doing, they had rejected the Lord.

No longer had Israel obeyed the Lord's command to have no other god. God entreated the people of the Northern Kingdom to seek him and live.

The people of Israel were ardent worshipers. They went to great lengths to get to places of worship — Bethel, Gilgal, and even as far as Beersheba. However, this geographic movement did no good.

Bethel, Gilgal, and Beersheba were all places where others had great encounters with God. However, the Israelites themselves were not having any personal encounters with the Living God at these places.

I had the opportunity to go into the church in London where Charles Haddon Spurgeon preached. Although it was a thrill for me to be there where the great man of God preached and prayed, it was not a worship experience for me.

Someone has written: "A place of worship should be of such character that it will be easy for men to find God and difficult for them to forget him." These places of worship had not helped the Israelites find God. "Seek me and live." God was not gone and he did not want them to forget him.

Getting it right (vv. 5: 18-27). Imagine being in a worship service. The music minister is directing, the choir and congregation appear to be singing but there is no sound. Imagine the preacher speaking the message, but there is no sound.

Of what value would a service like that be? The obvious answer is that it would have no value.

God said through Amos that he would not hear their service nor accept their offerings because their worship was not right. Their gifts were not acceptable unto the Lord because their hearts were not right. They mingled the worship of false gods with that of Jehovah.

The wealthy of the Northern Kingdom also were not right with others because they had abused them to get their wealth. Therefore, God would not accept their worship.

The only way to get right with God is to let justice (how we treat others) roll like a river and righteousness (our relationship with God) like a never-ending stream.

Every worship experience should be as taking the Lord's Supper — we should examine ourselves for unforgiven sin against God or our fellowmen. After forgiveness, there is nothing in the way between God and us. Then, we have it right.

Simmons is pastor of Hebron Church, Grenada.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

P.O. Box 27
Clinton, MS 39060-0027
(601) 922-2242
e-mail: bcv1@msn.com

Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

MAY 1-31, 2001 MEMORIALS

Fred Bailey
Mrs. Fred Bailey
Mrs. Raymond "Bobbye Sue Edward" Barlow
Mr. & Mrs. Noel Barrett II
Ms. Fannie Pollan
Mrs. Royce R. Thompson
Mrs. Judy A. Hurley
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Bratton
Jimbo, DeAnn, Sarah Kate & Lindsey Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. N. S. Kenwright
Rev. Harry "Buddy" Barnes
Spring Hill Baptist Church
Mrs. Inez L. Wilson
Dr. & Mrs. Jimmy Barnett
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Haley
Cecil E. Barrett
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Luke
Mrs. Carolyn Beard
Mrs. Betty Jo Schmidt
Bobbie Bearden
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Palmer
Margaret Bearman
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Coleman
Charles Richard Beddingfield
Mr. & Mrs. R. M. McAlister
Irma Bernero
Crenshaw Baptist Church
Carl Langston Berry
Dr. & Mrs. Carl S. Bozeman
Margaret Bierman
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie Blount
Mrs. Sallie Bishop
Mr. & Mrs. Oliver N. King
Mrs. Rose A. Blackburn
Rev. & Mrs. Howard T.
Scarborough
Mrs. Vickie Blount
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mr. V. H. Boatman
Mr. & Mrs. John Wayne
Vanhorn
Rev. H. M. Boone
Mrs. Lucille H. Harris
Rev. Miss Boone
Mrs. Ellouise Banc
Mr. & Mrs. Matt L. Taylor
Neva Nell Boswell
Don Boswell Family
Maurice J. Boswell
Joe Lannon Family
Alice Boyd
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Bill & Deena Barbee

Mr. Jim Crosby
Miss Connie Jackson
Stella Ford Currie
Mrs. Joe E. Graham
Tim Daniel
Mr. & Mrs. Don Evans
Luther Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Walter B. Moore
Mary Ethel Davis
Concord Baptist Church
Mr. Ward E. Dawkins
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Scruggs
Mr. Mason L. Dennis
Mr. & Mrs. George L. Mason
Earl Divine
Frances & Bill Creel
Joe F. Donald
Mr. & Mrs. John Miller Jr.
Mrs. Vera Webb Douglas
Mr. & Mrs. Arlis L. Godfrey
Mr. Thomas Duck, Sr.
Bethel Baptist Church
David Duer
Mr. & Mrs. Howard C. Duer
Mr. "Shot" Duke
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Kelsey
Bro. Leon Evans Dunaway
Chapter Directors MS "S"
Mr. & Mrs. A. C. Holzweissig
Family Members of Leon Evans Dunaway
Mr. & Mrs. James Perkins
West Gulfport BC
Mrs. Elinor Dunn
Mrs. Van D. Stone
Bennie Ellis
Ms. Kathryn D. Garrard
Mrs. Elizabeth Eskridge
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm M. Norwood Sr
Mrs. Imogene L. Penn
Flora Swain Evans
Mr. & Mrs. Jewell K. Dykes
Mrs. Katherine S. Evans
Mrs. Laurie B. Alford
Dr. and Mrs. Cyrus C. Johnson Jr.
Mrs. E. F. Simmons
Joy SSC II, FBC-Jackson
Mrs. Ruby Evans
Mr. & Mrs. Charles D. Little
L. B. Falter
Mrs. Carol B. Simmons
Mrs. Bess Fancher
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Lucy Farmer
Mr. & Mrs. Dalton Haggan
Mr. & Mrs. Billy C. McDonald
Mr. Cecil Farmer
Joe & Betty Horton
Opal Ezelle Farris
Mr. Charles M. Carnes
Don Feasel
Mrs. Beatrice Ross
Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Smith
Warren Ferguson
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mr. Vince Ferritti
Mr. R. C. Bryan Jr.
Marcia Beatrice "Bea" Flagherty
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Minter
Rebekah SSC, Midway BC-Meridian
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard O. Pogue
Mrs. Robbie Gregory
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Humphreys
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Vanlandingham
Mrs. Laura Vines
L. R. (Sonny) Fortenberry
Mr. & Mrs. R. L. Fortenberry
Mr. D. E. Fortenberry
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Buckley
Eunice Boyd Frazier
Mrs. Louise Garrett
Mrs. Gladys Fredricks
Mrs. Don Frey
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Nixon
Mrs. Doris M. Archer
Billie Ruth & C. L. DeClue
Ruthie & Wayne Forbes
Mrs. Ruby G. Hollingsworth
Mrs. George L. Evans Jr.
Mr. David Fulgham
Mr. & Mrs. Ellis O. Cummins
Mr. Thomas Fullilove
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Champion
Mrs. Mamie Gerkin
Fidelis SSC, FBC-Crystal Springs
Clay Gilliam
Mr. Author H. Honeycutt
Noah Gilless
Mr. & Mrs. John L. Prine
Mrs. Geneva K. Corley
Mr. & Mrs. Robert O. Taylor
Frances Cortright
Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Barnett
Roswendell Massie Cowart
Mrs. Tommie W. Taylor
Mr. Haskell Craft
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sullivan
William Crawford
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Scruggs
Mrs. Linda C. Crenshaw
Jewel Powell
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Selby
Scarborough
Mrs. Marie S. Gottfriedson
Mr. & Mrs. Billie J. Bonner

Mrs. Lucille Graham
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mrs. Ronnie Grantham
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Champion
Geraldine Gwen
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Green
Mrs. Debbie Hall
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Bridges
Oma M. Hall
Ms. Opal L. Smith
Violette Hall
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Shurden
Elmer Hamm
Thirteenth Avenue Pharmacy & Staff
Robert Hammond
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mr. Burton Hankins
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Bill & Deena Barbee
Mr. & Mrs. Hayes Branscome
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Branscome, Jr.
Mr. M. E. Brewer
Dr. & Mrs. John D. Harper
Ms. Martha R. Kirk
Mr. & Mrs. Archie C. Leggett
Mr. & Mrs. Walter B. Moore
Dr. & Mrs. Drew Townes
Dr. & Mrs. R. B. Townes Jr.
Ms. Pamela Tyler
Frances, Richie & Grace Defenbaugh
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Gore III
Willard W. Hanson
Ms. Verna E. Vickers
Mr. Carl Haralon
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Austin
James Harris
Mr. Walter Barbee
Mrs. Jewell Harrison
Dr. & Mrs. Joel Dillard Ray
Mr. Alvin Hart
Ms. Helen M. White
Mrs. Brookie Lightsey
Harold Hartzog
Mrs. Bal Mobley
Carmie Harvey
Friends at Hurley Baptist SSC
Tammy Hastings
Mrs. Rachel C. Browning
Mr. Harvey Odell Haywood
Co-Lin CC Fine Arts Faculty
Etta Mae Hazlewood
Dr. Jack Q. Causey
Mr. Guy Hegwood
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Edward Lee
Mr. Huey E. Heslep
Susan & Kelly Perry
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff McClendon
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Porter
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Box
Mrs. Louise Sandifer Hicks
Mrs. Mary Jayne Whittington
John Tillis Hill
Miss Beatrice Brownlee
Ron, Beverly & Lauren Carlyle
Leroy Hodges
Country Creek Ministry
Mrs. Mary Ella Hollifield
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sullivan
Thomas Holliday
Mr. Billy Frank Ferrell
J. R. Hollingsworth
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart V. Allen
Mrs. Billie Huber
Dr. & Mrs. Steve Huber
Ralph Irby
Mrs. David Thompson
J. C. Irwin
Mr. Charles H. Joyner
Nelom Jackson
Mr. & Mrs. Hiram Davis Jr.
Mrs. Almeda Jefcoat
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sullivan
Thirteenth Avenue Pharmacy & Staff
Hazel Dickey Jensen
The Bill Lord Family
Mrs. Bessie Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Scruggs
Mrs. Ruth V. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. George H. Crawford Jr.
Graymond Jolly
Ms. Martha R. Kirk
Pam and Tim Tyler
Rev. Kenneth Jones
Emps of Kustom Machine & Sheet Metal
Morris & Gay Brewer
Mrs. Rex Brewer
Larry & Ronena Crim
Mr. & Mrs. James Gardner
Rev. & Mrs. Floyd F. Higginbotham
James & Deborah Jones
Bill & Annie Martin
Joyce & Bill Rodgers
Billy Justice
Mrs. Helen M. White

Mrs. Virginia Keeling
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mrs. Clytie Kelly
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Shurden
Mr. James Hunter Kent
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond L. Craig Jr.
Eunice D. King
Jean Grant
Rev. Jeff King
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Lloyd Kitchens
Ms. Carrie Kimbrough
Gwen Lail
Mr. & Mrs. John Hendrix
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Nixon
Al Land, Jr.
Bobby & Andi Adams
Mrs. G. B. Landrum
Mr. & Mrs. J. V. Parker Jr.
John Lang
Mrs. June Bowering
Pebbles Lang
Mrs. Marguerite Singleton
Mrs. June Lewellen
Dr. & Mrs. James W. Lewis
Mr. Harold Little
Mr. & Mrs. Laney A. Berry
Dr. & Mrs. Roy W. Daughdrill
A. C. Lofton
Concord Baptist Church
Billy Joe Lovett
Mrs. Roy Mitchell
Mrs. Eva Luke
Mr. and Mrs. Myron McBrayer
Frances Lundy
Mrs. Milma A. Wiselogel
Mrs. Lucille Mabus
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Powell
L. C. Malone
Mr. & Mrs. Lendon E. Brown
Mr. Willie Joe Malone
Dr. & Mrs. Neil H. Simmons
Mrs. Mary Eugenia Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Jim W. Scruggs
Mrs. George L. Evans Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Nixon
Mrs. Ralph E. Van Naman
Ruth SSC, Calvary BC-Cleveland
Bro. Thomas Eugene Martin
West Gulfport Baptist Church
Jesse Lloyd Mason
Mr. Lee F. Mason
Mrs. Orene Hoggott Mason
The Family of Mae Sumrall
Mr. Lee F. Mason
Mrs. Mildred Mathews
Mr. & Mrs. John Wayne
VanHorn
Josephine Rizzo McCallister
Mrs. Laura Erwin
Mr. Kendrick McCarley
Mr. & Mrs. C. J. Kees Jr.
William B. McCarty, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. King
Mr. Stanley McDade
Mr. & Mrs. Truman Aldridge
Augusta Pate
Mrs. Billie S. Springer
Eva Patterson
Mississippi Bee Hive Winnies
Philip Pepper
Valley Park Baptist Church
Lynn Phillips
Mrs. June Bowering
Bobby McKellar
Dr. & Mrs. Irby C. Ellis
Mrs. Nan McKinzie
Mr. & Mrs. James C. Collier
Walton McMahon
Mrs. June Bowering
Mrs. Irene McPhail
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Carlisle
Mr. & Mrs. Bryant McPhail
Mr. & Mrs. Frank McPhail
Mr. & Mrs. Wm Hix McPhail
Mrs. Ygnendine Johnson
Mrs. Reba McSpadden
Mrs. Mary M. Eubanks
Ms. Gussie Magee
Kerren Melton
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Barbee
Louise Melton
Mrs. Patricia E. Robertson
Mrs. Kerren Melton
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Philley
Shearer Baker Metts
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kennedy
Gary Wayne Miller
Mrs. Bobbie B. Lannon
Ms. Lucille Lee Arledge
Mrs. Ada Bass Miller
Mrs. Betty B. Owen
Rev. W. W. Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard O. Pogue
Mrs. Leona Milner
Woodville Heights BC-Jackson
Rev. & Mrs. Howard T.
Scarborough
Kirby Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby J. Bates

Mrs. Virginia Keeling
Mr. & Mrs. Curtis A. Buchanan
Mrs. Clytie Kelly
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Shurden
Mr. James Hunter Kent
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond L. Craig Jr.
Eunice D. King
Jean Grant
Rev. Jeff King
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Lloyd Kitchens
Ms. Carrie Kimbrough
Gwen Lail
Mr. & Mrs. John Hendrix
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Nixon
Al Land, Jr.
Bobby & Andi Adams
Mrs. G. B. Landrum
Mr. & Mrs. J. V. Parker Jr.
John Lang
Mrs. June Bowering
Pebbles Lang
Mrs. Marguerite Singleton
Mrs. June Lewellen
Dr. & Mrs. James W. Lewis
Mr. Harold Little
Mr. & Mrs. Laney A. Berry
Dr. & Mrs. Roy W. Daughdrill
A. C. Lofton
Concord Baptist Church
Billy Joe Lovett
Mrs. Roy Mitchell
Mrs. Eva Luke
Mr. and Mrs. Myron McBrayer
Frances Lundy
Mrs. Milma A. Wiselogel
Mrs. Lucille Mabus
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Powell
L. C. Malone
Mr. & Mrs. Lendon E. Brown
Mr. Willie Joe Malone
Dr. & Mrs. Neil H. Simmons
Mrs. Mary Eugenia Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Jim W. Scruggs
Mrs. George L. Evans Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Nixon
Mrs. Ralph E. Van Naman
Ruth SSC, Calvary BC-Cleveland
Bro. Thomas Eugene Martin
West Gulfport Baptist Church
Jesse Lloyd Mason
Mr. Lee F. Mason
Mrs. Orene Hoggott Mason
The Family of Mae Sumrall
Mr. Lee F. Mason
Mrs. Mildred Mathews
Mr. & Mrs. John Wayne
VanHorn
Josephine Rizzo McCallister
Mrs. Laura Erwin
Mr. Kendrick McCarley
Mr. & Mrs. C. J. Kees Jr.
William B. McCarty, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. King
Mr. Stanley McDade
Mr. & Mrs. Truman Aldridge
Augusta Pate
Mrs. Billie S. Springer
Eva Patterson
Mississippi Bee Hive Winnies
Philip Pepper
Valley Park Baptist Church
Lynn Phillips
Mrs. June Bowering
Reather Pittman
Ms. Patricia Walston
Mike Prewitt
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Ruth Chapman Proctor
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Velouria Smith Proctor
Lydia SSC, FBC-Greenwood
Ben Purvis
Al & Sue Holmes
Warren E. Ragland
Bobby & Andi Adams
Marie Rake
Ms. Arlie S. Gill
Buddy Raley
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Hilton
Mrs. Myrtle Ray
Dr. & Mrs. Joel Dillard Ray
Mrs. Betty Reese
Mrs. Malcolm W. Heard
O. L. Rials
Ms. Helen M. White
Mrs. Corine Roberts
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Statham
Bo Robertson
Ms. Patricia E. Robertson
Elizabeth Ann Rodgers
Mrs. Sally W. Rodgers
R. M. Rodgers
Mrs. Sally W. Rodgers
Cummie Ester Roemers
Ms. Joylin C. Davis
Mrs. Ada Bass Miller
Mrs. Betty B. Owen
Rev. W. W. Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard O. Pogue
Mrs. Leona Milner
Woodville Heights BC-Jackson
Rev. & Mrs. Howard T.
Scarborough
Kirby Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby J. Bates

Dr. L. Gordon Sansing
Ms. Beatrice Ross
Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene H. Nettles
Mr. & Mrs. John Roby
Dr. & Mrs. Archie Howard
Mr. & Mrs. James May
Mrs. Joan L. Saucier
Mr. & Mrs. C. W. Duckworth
James Savage
Ms. Rhonda Coleman
Doris Saxon
Dr. & Mrs. R. E. Coglan
Mrs. Helen Sessums
Mrs. Lynn G. Hardage
Vernon Sills
F. M. Shelby Jr. & Betty
Mr. Frank Sims
The Pete Summers Family
Mrs. Phyllis Slaton
Terry's Creek BC
Bryan & Nettie Smith
Miss Sarah Marie Smith
Mr. C. C. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Haley
Mrs. Etta Lillian Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Bridges
Ms. Maggie L. Mahaffey
Father of Ms. Marilyn Smith
Friends at Frank R. Thomas Co., Inc.
J. O. Smith
Miss Lois Butler
Lora Rhodes Smith
Mrs. Emma Jo Smith
Marvin Smith
Pat & Hiram Stanford & Family
Mr. Richard L. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Haley
Mrs. Lavada Smith
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Haley
Gertrude T. Solomon
Ms. Rosalie B. Sanders
Mr. Ralph Sorey
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Bridges
Mrs. Blanch Speights
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Bridges
Mrs. Bobbie Spencer
Mr. & Mrs. Tom W. Doolittle
Mrs. Elizabeth Smart
Libby Spencer
Mr. & Mrs. R. M. Gillespie
Clara Stevens
Thirteenth Avenue Pharmacy & Staff
Mr. John Stevens
Mr. & Mrs. Hayes Branscome
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Branscome, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Hiram Davis Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. R. B. Townes Jr.
Mr. M. E. Brewer
Frances, Richie & Grace Defenbaugh
Mr. Eugene Packard
Mr. & Mrs. Truman Aldridge
Defenbaugh
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Gore III
Mildred Scott Stovall
Roy & Ann Moore
Mr. Everett Stringer
Mr. & Mrs. Donald M. Rawls
Mr. Tommy Stringer
Mens Sr SSC, Harmony BC-Crystal Springs
Mrs. Vera Stringer
Mr. & Mrs. Donald M. Rawls
Elvira Sullivan
Marion & Della McKnight
Robert & Joyce McKnight
Mrs. Winnie A. Sullivan
Mrs. Ray A. Whelan Jr.
Mrs. Emma Belle Sutton
Otto & Elly Becker
The Mahan Children
Mrs. Virginia H. Atherton
Al & Sue Holmes
Mr. & Mrs. Max H. Smith
Mrs. Vina Tarrt
Mr. & Mrs. Billie J. Bonner
Mr. & Mrs. Allen W. Clark II
Mr. Taylor
Bovina Baptist Church
Sidney Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Coleman
Vardaman & Doris Taylor
Miss Sarah Marie Smith
Mr. Harry Teasley
Mr. & Mrs. Truman Aldridge
Meryle Terwilliger
Mississippi Bee Hive Winnies
Mr. Charles Tew
Misters Harry & Jimmy Stout
J. A. Thigpen, Jr.
Mrs. Frances H. Schlaudt
Hollis Thigpen
Pat & Hiram Stanford & Family
Mr. Deck Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Arlis L. Godfrey
Ms. Dorothy Ward
Mr. Jessie Thomas
Misters Harry & Jimmy Stout
Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. Case

Pastor's Conf. hears plea of Mississippian

NEW ORLEANS, La. (Editor's Network and local reports) — Bobby Moore, pastor of Broadway Church, Southaven, told pastors attending the 2001 Southern Baptist Pastor's Conference June 11 in New Orleans of the need to keep on going for the cause of Christ.

He noted that 95% of Southern Baptists have never attempted to win anyone to Christ and that those who have been followers of Christ for a long time tend to stop witnessing.

He suggested five motivations for witnessing: the indwelling presence of Christ, the spiritual need of the lost, one's devotional life, the nearness of the Second Coming, and an understanding of the glory of God.

Preaching from Matthew 13, Smith spoke of Jesus' parable of the tares among the wheat.

It is possible even for pastors to be unsaved without realizing it, he warned.

Being a church member in no way assures that a person is a Christian, Smith said, noting he has encountered many who made decisions as young children but who didn't truly receive Christ as Lord and Savior.

Pastors should make sure people in their churches are truly saved through their own trust in Jesus rather than relying on the faith of their parents or grandparents, he said.

In addition to Falwell and Smith, the Pastors' Conference featured a number of younger pastors and evangelists.

One of those was Dan Spencer, pastor of First Church, Thomasville, Ga., and son of Pastors' Conference President Jerry Spencer.

"God is calling out people today to have the boldness of John the Baptist," Spencer said as he preached from the third chapter of Luke.

"Don't stop preaching about hell, pastor. Bold preaching is needed because the audacity of our culture demands it," he said.

Spencer also warned attendees not to rely too heavily on old methods to reach a lost world undergoing rapid changes. "We are not going to reach the digital generation using Morse Code methods," he said.

Charles Roesel, pastor of First Church, Leesburg, Fla., exhorted pastors to avail themselves of God's spiritual power.

"We must first 'be' something if people are going to listen when we say something," Roesel said.

"The world will listen to us when we live what we talk. The world is not impressed by our buildings. They are turned off by our budgets. They could care less how many people we baptize, but if they see us helping hurting people in love and compassion, they... know we are showing care and compassion," he said.

Bob Pitman, pastor of Kirby Woods Church, Memphis, observed that Christians not only have a responsibility to "go" until Christ returns, they have a responsibility to go joyfully.

"We're on the winning side. There is joy in walking with God. There is joy in witnessing for God. The joy comes in telling the story and witnessing in the power of God," he pointed out.

MOORE CHALLENGES PASTORS — Bobby Moore, pastor of Broadway Church, Southaven, preaches during the Pastors' Conference of the Southern Baptist Convention, challenging ministers to keep on going. The Pastors' Conference was held June 10-11 in the Louisiana Superdome. (BP photo by Justin Veneman)

broken heart and a passion to reach those who do not have a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ," he said.

Philip Robertson, pastor of Philadelphia Church, Deville, La., urged the pastors to go with authority.

He said the authority for believers is the presence of Christ and the authority of God's word.

"Without the presence of Jesus, we are powerless," Robertson said. "Jesus never compromised the preaching of the Word of God... I believe you can preach the word and people will come. ... Worship ought to be about what pleases God and not about what pleases men."

Ken Whitten, pastor of Idlewild Church, Tampa, Fla., was elected president of the Pastors' Conference.

Michael Claunch, pastor of First Church, Slidell, La., was elected vice president.

Charles West, pastor of First Church, Bethalto, Ill., was elected secretary.

"Occupy till I come." Luke 19:13



PRAISE TO THE FATHER — Susan Cherry, a soloist and member of Broadway Church, Southaven, performs June 11 at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference in the Superdome in New Orleans, just prior to a conference sermon by Broadway Church, Southaven, pastor Bobby Moore. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx
copyright 1999

ZNK CUXRJ IGTUZ
NGZK EUA; HAZ SK OZ
NGZKZN, HKIGAYK O
ZKYZOLE UL OZ, ZNGZ
ZNK CUXQY ZNKKUL
GXK KBOR.

PUNT YKBKT: YKBKT

Clue: C = W

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: John One: Fifty-One.

"The longer you are a Christian, the more you forget what it is like to be without God in your life," he said.

"Believing in the imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ drives us to win the world to Christ," Moore said.

Virginia pastor Jerry Falwell told the group, "It is amazing what God can do with one visionary person who is not at all interested in Harris or Gallup polls, who is not interested in being popular, who is interested only in being pastors.

Falwell urged the pastors present to become anointed visionaries who will "ask God to double our denomination."

While Falwell's church has affiliated in recent years with the upstart Virginia conservative Baptist convention, he has not renounced his ties to non-Southern Baptist religious groups such as Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church.

Evangelist Bailey Smith warned the crowd that even Southern Baptist churches are full of people who never have had a genuine saving encounter with Jesus Christ.

NEW OFFICERS — Jerry Spencer (left) outgoing president of the Southern Baptist Pastor's Conference, presents newly elected officers Michael Claunch, (center) vice president, pastor of First Church, Slidell, La.; and Ken Whitten, president, pastor of Idlewild Church, Tampa, Fla. The Pastors' Conference met June 10-11 in the Louisiana Superdome. (Photo by Kent Harville)